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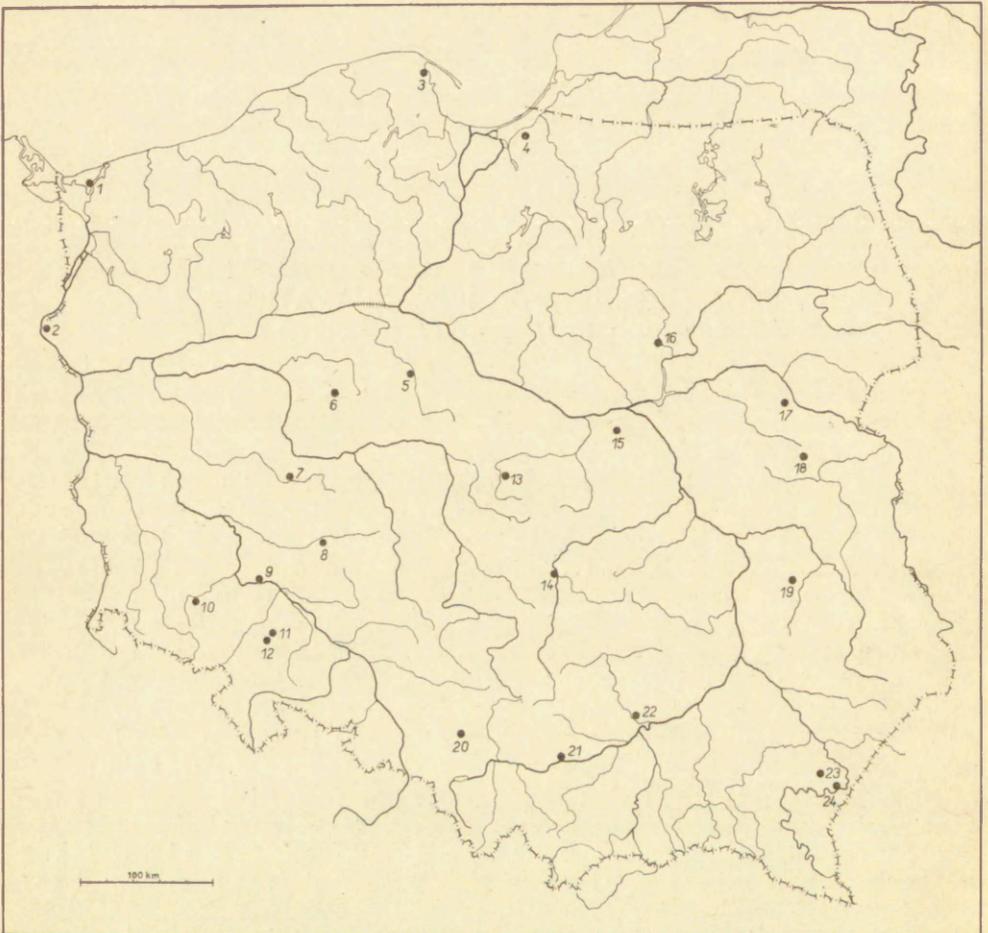
MAJOR RESULTS OF 1980 EXCAVATIONS OF EARLY MEDIEVAL SITES IN POLAND

About 60 sites from the Early Middle Ages and over 30 sites from the High Middle Ages and modern times were investigated. Early medieval sites included over 30 earthworks and early towns, 16 settlements and 13 cemeteries.

The earliest phase of the Early Medieval period is represented by 2 settlements: **Czerchów (13)**, Łódź province (A. Chmielowska, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź) — 4 pits, a hearth, numerous postholes and a rectangular post house, pottery of the 6th cent., and **Niesubowice (8)**, Wrocław province, site 2 (J. Domańska, E. Noworyta, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Wrocław) — a rectangular hut, an indeterminate feature, 7th century pottery discovered on a multicultural settlement. A few settlements from later phases also claim attention. At **Czekanów (17)**, Siedlce province (B. Zawadzka-Antosik, Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa) a settlement complex of the 6th-13th cent. continued to be excavated. The complex included site I with a cemetery of the 12th-13th cent., which yielded a further 3 inhumation graves (total 118), and with a settlement of the 7th-8th cent., with a rectangular semi-subterranean building containing hand-made pottery but no hearth; and site III with a settlement of the 10th-early 11th cent., which revealed 2 features comprising numerous finds such as 9 spindle-whorls (1 of amber), a decorated part of a horn comb, a „strike-a-light”, fragments of whetstones, an awl and buckle, both of iron, an iron spur with in-turned hooks (6th cent. — in secondary position), a silver ear-ring, a bracelet of bronze. The discoveries at **Motycz (19)**, Lublin province (S. Hoczyk-Siwkowa, I. Kutylowska, Uniwersytet M. Curie-Skłodowska, Lublin) included remains of an earthwork and settlement of the 8th-9th cent., represented by fragments of a rampart with interlocked timber elements (box build?), and stone-paved hearths. Exploration was concluded of an iron-producing settlement at **Sulejów-Piaski (14)**, Piotrków Trybunalski province, site 4 (M. Góra, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź) revealing a further 2 pits of the 10th-12th cent.

Very rewarding were the systematic underwater investigations of the Puck Gulf conducted since 1979 at the mouth of the Płótnica river at **Puck (3)**, Gdańsk province (W. Stępień, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych — Gdańsk, Ośrodek Badań i Dokumentacji Zabytków — Łódź, Klub Archeologii Podwodnej „Tryton” — Bydgoszcz). A section, 80 m long, revealed pavements, a jetty of „yoke” construction and other timber constructions (some probably parts of coastal houses with pottery of the 8th-11th cent. and rotation querns), as well as a dug-out and wrecks of 3 boats built of staves (one dated by pottery to the 8th cent., and another by radiocarbon method to mid-13th cent.).

The fortified sites explored in 1980 date mostly from the later phases of the Early Medieval period, though some existed already in the earlier period. We should mention here **Moraczewo (6)**, Poznań province, site 1 (C. Strzyżewski, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) where four years, excavations of a two-phase stronghold were concluded. The earlier phases, of the 8th-9th cent., was represented by another block house with 2 hearths, and the later phase, of the 10th cent., by a house with 3 hearths and a rampart of crossed logs construction, at the base of which a perforated axe of the 10th cent., type K after J. Petersen, was found; **Będkowice (12)**, Wrocław province



(H. Śledzik-Kamińska, Wojewódzki Ośrodek Archeologiczno-Konserwatorski, Wrocław) — a rampart with its inner side revetted by several layers of logs loosely placed in one direction, and with its outer side built of clay with the base faced by stones; and a gate, 8th-11th cent.; **Rzymówka (10)**, Legnica province, site 1 (K. Bykowski, Uniwersytet, Wrocław) — two habitation phases: the earlier, barely discernible, in the E part of the stronghold of the 9th-mid-10th cent., and the later of the mid-10th-11th cent., represented by a pit dwelling with a hearth and an entrance in the SE corner of the longer wall, by overground structures built on a frame of vertical posts with wattle walls and by a house with walls built of short planks with ends tenoned into the slots of vertical posts and with a wooden floor; the house was divided into a store with about 100 kg of carburized wheat in a wooden box and into a dwelling room proper containing a hearth and a large number of iron artifacts such as a perforated axe, a spearhead, part of a bit, a bowl of the Silesian type serving as currency, a cylindrical padlock; in the corner of another building a „hoard” came to light; it contained 2 miniature clay vessels (respective heights 3 and 4.5 cm), a hilt (pommel and guard) of a sword of Petersen’s type X, a staple, hooks, a hook-like key, iron parts of a bucket, a fragmentary comb, borers of bone and a polishing stone; **Kręsko (9)**, Wrocław province (H. Pokora, Wojewódzki Ośrodek Archeologiczno-Konserwatorski, Wrocław) — a motte from the late phases of the Middle Ages, surrounded by a „suburbium” — probably an older stronghold of the 8th-9th cent.; it yielded 12 dwelling and domestic features, a moat and the area of the bearing construction of a bridge.

Some of the strongholds were set up on the sites of open settlements of earlier date, e.g. **Tuligłowy (23)**, Przemysł province (M. Cabalska, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków), where the discoveries included a third pit dwelling found within the settlement of the 8th-9th cent., which preceded the erection of the fortifications (part of the dwelling pit was covered by the rampart) and another (17th) overground building associated with the fortified township of the 10th-11th cent.; **Krzesk-Królowa Niwa (18)**, Siedlce province, site 1 (J. Kalaga, Uniwersytet, Warszawa) — a bivallate stronghold of the 11th-12th cent., with oval semi-subterranean huts with hearth, built on the site of a settlement of 8th century date; both ramparts had two phases: in the later they were earth-and-stone structures, and in the earlier the outer rampart had a mixed construction consisting partly of boxes filled with clay, sand and stone, and partly of horizontal logs resting on uprights, and the inner rampart was of crossed logs construction, faced on both sides with a sort of hoarding of planks.

Long-term investigations of several early urban complexes were continued. The exploration of two further levels (first half of the 10th cent.) of the port town at **Wolin (1)**, Szczecin province, site 1 (W. Filipowiak, J. Wojtasik, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Wolin) revealed fragments of 2 streets, 4 post houses and a large number of various finds including sherds of stearite vessels and a coil of rope 3 to 5 cm thick and over 25 m long. Rescue excavations conducted at **Kraków (21)** (E. Zaitz, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Kraków) as part of the revalorization project have allowed to associate the 9th-10th century layers with the earlier settlement phase of the town named „Okół”, in the neighbourhood of the hoard of iron axe-like currency bars, discovered in 1979, thus confirming the dating of the hoard to the first or early second half of the 9th cent. At **Kruszwica (5)**, Bydgoszcz province, site 2 (W. Hensel, W. Dzieduszycki, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań) the latest layers (12th to mid-13th cent.) of the rampart of crossed logs construction were explored. The verification of the chronology of the fortifications of the stronghold in the flooded Nida valley at **Wiślica (22)**, Kielce province, site 1 (D. Górna, J. Kalaga, Z. Pianowski, Uniwersytet — Warszawa, Kierownictwo Odnowienia Zamku Królewskiego — Kraków Wawel) has shown that the circular stone wall placed on the top of the levelled rampart of the 10th-11th cent. should be dated to the beginnings of the High Middle Ages, possibly to the turn of the 13th/14th cent. and not to the Early Middle Ages as has been previously supposed. The investigations continued at **Pultusk (16)**, Ciechanów province, site Zamek (Castle) (A. Golembnik and team, Pracownie Konserwacji Zabytków, Warszawa) uncovered the timber build-up of the stronghold of the 12th-14th cent., including a block house from the earliest habitation level and part of a circular street with buildings oriented along its course and dating from the later habitation levels.

Among the studies of pre- and early Romanesque architecture special attention is claimed by the discovery of the remains of the oldest church at the Benedictine monastery at **Lubin (7)**, Leszno province, site 1 (Z. and S. Kurnatowski, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań), represented by a semicircular apse from the close of the 11th cent., found under a part of defensive walls contemporary with the second Romanesque church built in the middle or in the second half of the 12th cent.

Moreover, a number of mottes of the 13th to 15th cent. were explored. Interesting results were yielded by two sites, namely: **Kochłowice-Ruda Śląska (20)**, Katowice province (J. Pierzak, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Katowice) — a stronghold of two parts from the second half of the 13th to 14th cent., situated on a promontory bounded by two streams and cut off by a moat; the higher plateau (18 × 15 m) yielded remains of a central timber building (charcoal and lumps of daub with negatives of logs) and remains of a palisade on the edge of the mound; the lower plateau (17 × 27 m) revealed a cultural layer without traces of build-up; **Zamczysko (15)**, Warszawa province (J. Pyrgała, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Warszawa) — an oval stronghold (40 × 50 m) of the 13th cent. with two moats on a dune promontory and with traces of timber constructions in the centre (charcoal, daub with impressions) a domed oven of clay on a wooden frame at the edge and with a strip of charred logs and planks, probably remains of fortifications, on the slope.

The only cemetery to have yielded cremation graves was at **Nowinka (4)**, Elbląg province, site 1 (M. Pietrzak, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk). They were pit graves (nos. 121-138) of the Old Prussian culture, dating from the 5th-7th cent., all poorly furnished with the exception of 4 human cremation burials accompanied by horse's skeletons furnished with iron bits and one with ornamented bridle mounts of bronze sheet.

The remaining cemeteries explored in 1950 contained only inhumation graves from the later phases of the Early Medieval period. At **Cedynia (2)**, Szczecin province, 2 cemeteries continued to be explored: the oldest part of the cemetery on site 2 (end of the 11th to 12th cent.) (H. Malinowska-Łazarczyk, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Szczecin) yielded 42 burials, mostly oriented to N-S (furnished with knives and pottery), occasionally to W-E (the grave goods included wooden buckets, coins, temple-rings, finger-rings, belt-buckles, knives); a ditch bounding the cemetery was detected on the N and SW border; the cemetery on site 2 a (A. Porzeziński, Muzeum Narodowe, Szczecin) yielded 95 burials usually oriented along NW-SE and WE line, 42 of which were furnished (among the grave goods were a bronze Romanesque bowl, wooden buckets, coins, clay rattles, glass beads); a ditch divided the cemetery into two parts, 10th/11th to 12th cent. Two emeteries were also explored at **Przemyśl (24)** (A. Koperski, Muzeum Okręgowe, Przemyśl), namely an Old Magyar cemetery of the 10th cent. at Rycerska Street (a further 2 graves, oriented to W, temple-rings, a pendant of rock crystal) at 8 newly discovered burials of the 11th-12th cent. at Krasieński Street (5 with heads to W, and the remaining 3 with heads to N, S and E respectively; pottery, knives, a „strike-a-light” with flint, arrowheads, an ear-ring and a silver finger-ring). Excavations were continued of a cemetery from the close of the 10th to 11th/12th cent. at **Stary Zamek (11)**, Wrocław province, site 5 (S. Florek, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Wrocław) uncovering its N limits and 6 burials: 5 oriented to W and one (in a stone setting) to E, furnished with 10 small temple-rings; the cemetery was part of an early medieval settlement complex.



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